THE PHOSPHORITE INDUSTRY
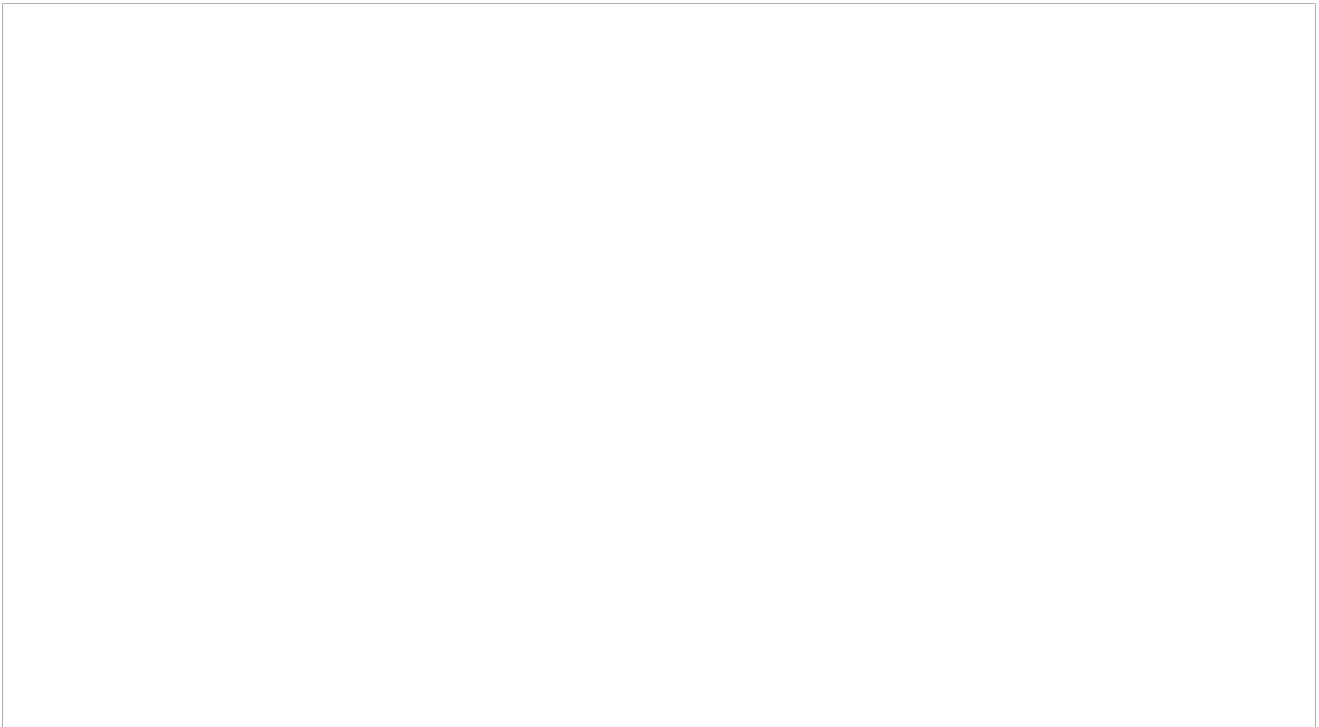
3 May 1950

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THE PHOSPHORITE INDUSTRY

The tremendous effort exerted by the Party and Government to bring
the Estonian phosphorite industry to the forefront has turned out to be
fruitful. The Estonian phosphorite industry has risen considerably
above its prewar level and the importance of this industry extends far
beyond the boundaries of the Republic. The machine park of the Mardu
Phosphorite Plant and the ~~crushing~~ *mine* installations have been thoroughly
overhauled and the number of workers employed is considerably greater
than before the War.

The Estonian phosphorite industry has fulfilled its 11-month
production plan in all respects and produces daily twice the amount
of phosphorite and phosphorite products provided in the plan.

(28.8.49)

The Mardu Phosphorite Plant delivered 1,130 tons of phosphorite
powder to Estonian agriculture this year. Over 12,000 tons of potassium
salt and 7,000 tons of superphosphate were imported for the needs of
our agriculture from other republics.

(2.9.49)

Note by commentator: The question arises as to why the phosphorite
industry has been so particularly emphasized? In this connection, it
is extraordinary that only about 1,100 tons of this great quantity of
production is used as fertilizer in Estonian agriculture. It is pertin-
ent, perhaps ~~to point~~ out that during the German occupation the output
of the Estonian phosphorite industry was claimed almost 100 percent by
the Germans and exported to Germany. According to reports, the Estonian
phosphorite was used there for war purposes. It is very likely that

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the Russians are now copying the same method. At any rate, if one considers the above communication and the state of agriculture, one must conclude that the export of phosphorites is an indisputable fact. As to its purpose, that is another question.

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